

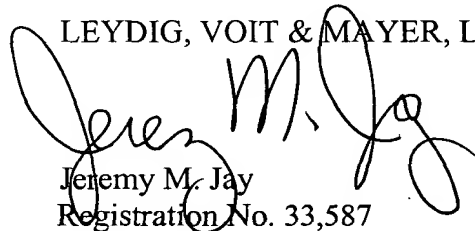
REMARKS

The specification has been amended to include a reference to the PCT application, and to indicate that the present application is the National stage of the PCT application. Claims 3, 5-9, 11-12, 15, 20, 25-26, 31, 34, 45, 51, 58, 60-62, and 65-67 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 43 and 45 have been amended, for example, by replacing the quaternary ammonium group with positively charged group. The reference to diallyldialkylammonium halide has been deleted in claims 8 and 43. Claim 46 has been amended to improve the form of the claim and more distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as their invention. Claim 64 has been amended to make it dependent upon claim 32. New claims, claims 75-86, have been added, and are directed to embodiments of the invention. No new matter has been added by way of this Preliminary Amendment.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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JMJ:jj